

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PPT-01

INFO OCT-01 SCA-01 ISO-00 /003 R

DRAFTED BY PPT/FM: JARINI:CPS

APPROVED BY PPT/F: FGRANDO

NEA/ARN:PKBULLEN

PPT/L:WWHARTON

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P 202239Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

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PASSPORT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:CVIS: SYRIAN

SUBJECT: REQUIREMENTS FOR SYRIAN VISAS

REF: AMMAN'S L.O.U. 3960

1. DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED REFTEL. RECENT TALKS WITH SYRIAN CONSULAR OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON DID NOT INDICATE POSSIBILITY OF NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING SYRIAN VISAS.
  2. AS OF THIS DATE NO OTHER POST HAS REPORTED SITUATION SIMILAR TO ONE DESCRIBED IN REFTEL.
  3. ALTHOUGH DEPARTMENT AND POSTS ABROAD HAVE STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO VERIFY U.S. PASSPORTS, SEE 22 USC 211A, SECRETARY OF STATE HAS NO AUTHORITY TO RECOMMEND TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT THAT VISA BE ISSUED OR DENIED TO A U.S. NATIONAL. IN FACT, SUCH A PROCEDURE WOULD BE CONTRARY TO LINE OF U.S. COURT DECISIONS ON THE RIGHT TO TRAVEL, AND COULD PLACE DEPARTMENT IN POSITION OF RESTRICTING RIGHT OF U.S. CITIZENS TO TRAVEL ABROAD BY WITHHOLDING COVERING LETTER OF RECOM-
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MENDATION. IT WOULD ALSO IMPOSE AN ADDITIONAL WORKLOAD ON

OUR CONSULAR OFFICERS.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY CHECKING WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY TO CLARIFY SITUATION. IN THIS CONNECTION,

EMBASSY MAY CONSIDER RAISING THE ARGUMENTS SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH 3, AND ASCERTAINING REASON FOR CHANGE OF POLICY (IF SUCH IS THE CASE), AND POSSIBLE DURATION OF SAID CHANGE.

5. FOR AMMAN: PENDING CLARIFICATION FROM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS, AND DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE, DO NOT REPEAT NOT ISSUE ANY VERIFICATION LETTERS. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE145965  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JARINI:CPS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750216-0472  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750628/aaaaazwt.tel  
**Line Count:** 74  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN PPT  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 3960  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** WITHDRAWN <10 Jun 2003 by MorefiRH, INA>; RELEASED <02 JUL 2003 by MorefiRH>; RELEASED <02 Jul 2003 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <05 JAN 2004 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REQUIREMENTS FOR SYRIAN VISAS  
**TAGS:** CVIS, SY  
**To:** DAMASCUS  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006